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Note by the Secretary-General

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* Reports submitted by non-governmental organizations are issued without formal editing.

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1. Cercle des amis de la forêt pour le 21e siècle

(Special; 2003)

I. Introduction

(i) Purposes and goals of the organization

The Cercle des amis de la forêt pour le 21e siècle (CAFOR 21) grew out of its founding fathers' wish to create a framework for reflection and action as part of the struggle to protect the environment in general and forests in particular. Convinced that the chief enemies of forests were the men who lived in them and were destroying them or permitting their destruction in order to survive, the earliest members sought to provide assistance to the predators so that the forests could be spared.

Membership

The organization has maintained its membership despite attrition through deaths thanks to the new recruits who have joined it.

(ii) Significant change: partnership

Since 2006, the organization has been supporting a budding association, the Association for the Development of the Babimbi II Region, whose goals are to advance the development of the inhabitants and the towns in the coastal Sanaga River region.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

(i) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies

The organization regularly receives information on the various Economic and Social Council meetings through the Council's representative in New York. The latter organized two conferences on the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) for members of CAFOR 21 and other participants. The conferences were held in Cameroon: in Douala on 12 November 2005 and in Yaoundé on 17 November 2005. Over the next three years, 2008-2010, members of CAFOR 21 will certainly be attending meetings organized by the Economic and Social Council; and they will be sure to present their organization's experience relating to timely issues like HIV/AIDS in rural areas, forest protection by village populations, the establishment and operation of an educational institution in a landlocked setting or the creation of income-generating activities.

(ii) Action in support of the Millennium Development Goals

The organization's various activities in the first decade of its existence aimed essentially to bring aid of all kinds to populations living in total destitution. Its objectives once it became a non-governmental organization and during the first four years of its affiliation with the Economic and Social Council remained the same. Its anti-poverty contributions have been as follows:

- Drinking-water supply project: CAFOR 21 built four wells equipped with hand pumps in the community of Log Nkoll, thanks to which over 5,000 people have regular access to drinking water, which allows them more time for farming;

- Scholarships: Primary and secondary school students in the coastal Sanaga River region received grants providing financial assistance and assistance with books and school supplies in 2004, 2005 and 2006. Every school year, CAFOR 21 contributes to the operating expenses of the secondary school located in Nkom;
- Student assistance: Students enrolled in technical courses received grants from the organization during the 2006/2007 academic year;
- Consciousness-raising about sexually transmitted diseases and HIV/AIDS: Information on HIV/AIDS is provided regularly to families by CAFOR 21 members, three of whom are teachers who have received training on the disease and its consequences;
- Consciousness-raising about brush fires: As in the case of HIV/AIDS, the organization is in constant contact with village populations about brush fires and their consequences.

Even with these admittedly modest activities, CAFOR 21 is assuredly contributing to the realization of the Millennium Development Goals, which include achieving universal primary education, ensuring environmental sustainability and combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases.

Conclusion

During the period 2000-2006, CAFOR 21 maintained its same founding objectives, namely, protection of forests and development of village communities. It has realized these goals through many activities conducted in the communities themselves, whose extreme poverty could leave no one indifferent and imposes an obligation of solidarity. Instances of specific activities are the construction of drinking-water wells, assistance to indigent students, helping with the operating expenses of primary and secondary schools and raising awareness about HIV/AIDS.

While regularly informed of the schedule of United Nations meetings, the organization has not taken part in inter-agency exchanges.

During the next quadrennial period, 2008-2011, CAFOR 21 plans to attend meetings despite its members' limited means, and might even make presentations when the Millennium Development Goals are discussed.

2. International Federation of Associations of the Elderly

(General; 1991)

I. Introduction

The International Federation of Associations of the Elderly (FIAPA) is the only world organization composed exclusively of associations of the elderly, enabling them to represent themselves at the major international organizations.

It has branches on the five continents and at the moment comprises 175 associations in 70 countries, or about 300 million elderly persons.

Organizationally, it has a network of regional centres — Mauritius for the Indian Ocean region, Dakar for West Africa, Beijing for the Asia-Pacific region — which allows it to limit its action as appropriate for the area concerned.

In December 2006, the French Government designated the Federation a State-approved organization. In addition to its international representation activities, it engages in humanitarian action, conducts or participates in research projects, organizes or participates in scientific symposia, publishes an action research review, *Les Cahiers de la FIAPA*, and organizes competitions to promote intergenerational connections.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

(i) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies

The Federation participated in all the Economic and Social Council meetings dealing with development, from the forty-first session to the forty-fourth, and made the following major contributions:

- At the forty-first session (New York, 10-21 February 2003), the President of FIAPA renewed his call for the establishment of a world observatory on ageing;
- At the forty-third session (New York, 9-18 February 2005), the President underscored the need to develop social welfare systems for elderly women, especially in the developing countries;
- At the forty-fourth session (New York, 8-17 February 2006), the President analysed the different kinds of poverty in which people lived in the various regions of the world.

(ii) Meetings in the context of the second International Plan of Action on Ageing

The Federation attended a great many meetings to ensure that the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing would be implemented or publicized, chief among them the following:

- Regional meeting of civil society organizations on ageing held in Chile and sponsored by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in conjunction with the Population Division of the Latin American and Caribbean Centre for Demography (Santiago, Chile, June 2003). The President of FIAPA spoke on the theme of ageing in the rural world and on the role of support networks. He also reiterated his proposal for the establishment of a world observatory on ageing;
- High-level segment of the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council, presided over by the Secretary-General of the United Nations (Geneva, June 2003). The President of FIAPA spoke on ageing in rural areas;
- Second Latin American and Caribbean meeting of leaders and representatives of organizations for the elderly, organized at the initiative of Red Tiempos of Colombia (Bogotá, October 2003). The President of FIAPA gave a statement on the worldwide economic discrimination against the elderly;

– Follow-up meetings to the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing held in Spain:

- Madrid, November 2005: The President of FIAPA spoke on the role of intergenerational relations in the development of social cohesion;
- Segovia, November 2006: A Federation representative introduced the draft of a FIAPA study on financial abuse;
- Jaen, May 2006: The Federation participated in a meeting organized by the Institute for the Elderly and Social Services (IMSERSO) on growing old in 2006.

(iii) Other meetings

The Federation took part in various other United Nations meetings, such as the Second Meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the World Summit on the Information Society (Geneva, February 2003).

III. Contribution of the organization to the work of other international agencies

(i) United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

As a member of the NGO Conference of UNESCO, the Federation attended and spoke at a number of UNESCO meetings (December 2003, November 2004).

(ii) European Parliament

The Federation was active in organizing the observance of the twentieth anniversary of the Intergroup on Ageing of the European Parliament, held in conjunction with the European Older People's Platform (AGE) and the European Federation of Older Persons (EURAG) (July 2004).

(iii) European Union

The Federation made its position clear on a draft directive of the European Commission on driving licences, which it deemed discriminatory to the elderly. After its Scientific Council had studied the question in detail, FIAPA submitted several proposed amendments to the draft, both to the appropriate European Commission members and to European parliamentarians. Taking its observations into account, the European Commission decided to defer adoption of its draft.

(iv) Council of Europe

The Federation has consultative status and is a member of the three bodies representing international NGOs in the Council: the annual plenary conference, the Liaison Committee and the Groupings. It has of course attended all their meetings: four one-week sessions annually at the Council of Europe headquarters in Strasbourg.

Among its main activities at the Council of Europe were: the submission of a resolution on ageing adopted by the Health Grouping (April and October sessions, 2006), for submission to the plenary conference; participation in international NGO missions to European countries (Third Summit of Heads of State, Warsaw, Poland, May 2005); participation in a seminar on health and human rights (Bucharest,

Romania, May 2006); participation in a seminar on the status of Russian associations (Moscow, Russian Federation, September 2006); designation as one of the NGOs authorized by the Governmental Committee of the European Social Charter to submit collective complaints of violations of the Charter committed by signatory States.

IV. Social action by the Federation in the developing countries

(i) It helped to institute a public social welfare system in Ecuador.

(ii) It did a study on establishing and operating a supplementary hospital insurance programme for Senegalese retirees covered by the Retirement Insurance Agency and its affiliate, the Federation of Associations of Retired and Older Persons of Senegal (FARPAS) (2004-2005).

(iii) It helped elderly Polish peasants affected by land reform to form an association.

V. Research activities

(i) The Federation took part in the European project FELICIE (Future Elderly Living Conditions in Europe). The project covered nine European countries and entailed a prospective analysis, up to the year 2030, of the changing situation of elderly persons and of their needs in all areas (2004-2006). It has been succeeded by another study, MAGGIE (Major Ageing Gender Issues in Europe), which will define and analyse quality-of-life indicators in order to explain the life-expectancy differences between men and women.

(ii) The Federation is the coordinator for five European countries under the project MOBIL'AGES, whose goal is to create a European network for the exchange of knowledge between generations and between countries, through a series of workshops (2004-2006).

(iii) The Federation did a study on financial abuse of the elderly over the course of 2006 and 2007, and collected more than 3,000 questionnaires from elderly persons in three European countries, Belgium, Italy and Spain. An analysis of the results led to the conclusion that one out of two elderly persons has been the victim of some kind of financial abuse.

VI. Scientific seminars and conferences

During this quadrennial period, FIAPA organized the following seminars:

(i) In 2004 it held two seminars: one on the topic of "Retirees: A political, economic and social force in Europe" (Salonika, Greece, May 2004), and the other on three topics: "Health and longevity", "New technologies" and "The transmission of knowledge" (Hangzhou, China, October 2004).

(ii) In 2005, it held a seminar on the subject "Getting old — why should you, or what should you be doing?" (Stresa, Italy, October 2005).

(iii) In 2006, a seminar, followed by a plenary session, discussed the economic implications of longevity, and three round tables focused respectively on, "Gray power", "Health: Biopsychological ageing", and "The transmission of knowledge" (Barcelona, Spain, June 2006).

VII. The Federation's action research review, *Les Cahiers de la FIAPA*

During the period under consideration, four new issues of the review appeared: one special edition, *The Ageing of the World's Population: 20 Years of United Nations Action*: *The Role and Work of FIAPA* (December 2004); *Gray Power*, focusing on the three areas of political, economic and social influence (December 2004); *Ageing: From Cell to Function; Practical Aspects* (June 2005); *The Transmission of Knowledge* (May 2006).

VIII. The promotion of intergenerational relations by means of a competition

In 2006, the Federation organized a competition centred on the use of new technologies to facilitate living or the communication between generations. Prizes were awarded to two projects: a French one, making it easier for elderly persons to use computers (to send e-mails, for example) and the other a Canadian one, offering a very simple system for using videoconferencing and for interactive text processing.

3. International Planned Parenthood Federation (Western Hemisphere Region)

(Special; 2003)

I. Introduction: The International Planned Parenthood Federation/Western Hemisphere Region (IPPF/WHR) was founded in 1954 with the goal of improving the health of women throughout the Americas. IPPF/WHR seeks to address the range of sexual and reproductive health issues that affect the integral health of women, men and adolescents.

IPPF/WHR's work is grounded in the belief that access to quality, sexual and reproductive health information and services is a basic human right. By making these services available, IPPF/WHR helps to empower individuals to make decisions about their fertility and thus contributes to improving health and well being, national development and environmental quality.

IPPF/WHR works primarily through a network of 46 member associations in North America, Latin America and the Caribbean that provide over 18.5 million services each year at more than 10,000 service delivery points. Each member is a private autonomous organization, established to supply family planning and other related health services according to local needs, customs and laws.

IPPF/WHR provides technical assistance and financial support to these and other reproductive health organizations, helps facilitate information sharing among its members, and advocates for sexual and reproductive rights on a regional and international level.

IPPF/WHR is one of six regions that comprise the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), which is based in London. IPPF/WHR is the only region of the IPPF that is a separately incorporated entity.

IPPF/WHR has 5 programs of action: Access, Youth, HIV/AIDS, Safe Abortion, and Advocacy.

Access: Programs and services to ensure that all people, particularly the poor, marginalized, and underserved, are able to exercise their rights, make free and informed choices about their sexual and reproductive health, and access sexual and reproductive health information, sexuality education, and high-quality services.

Abortion: Activities to eliminate unsafe abortion, to ensure the universal recognition of a woman's right to choose, and to have access to safe abortion.

Advocacy: Efforts to generate strong public, political, and financial commitment to and support for sexual and reproductive health and rights at the national and international levels.

Adolescents: Programs and services to ensure that all adolescents and young people are aware of their sexual and reproductive rights, are empowered to make informed choices regarding their sexual and reproductive health, and are able to act on these choices.

HIV/AIDS/Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs): Programs and services to ensure the full protection of the rights of people infected and affected by HIV/AIDS/STIs and the reduction in the global incidence of HIV/AIDS/STIs

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

(i) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings

From 2003 to 2006, IPPF/WHR participated in the work of the Economic and Social Council by attending a number of key conferences, as well as promoted the work of the United Nations through the following activities:

1. IPPF/WHR participated in the 48th, 49th and 50th sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women held on 1-12 March 2004, 28 February-11 March 2005, and 27 February-10 March 2006 respectively, as well as in the 38th and 39th sessions of the Commission on Population and Development 4-8 April 2005 and 3-7 April 2006. Moreover, International Planned Parenthood Federation convened a Roundtable in London between 31 August and 2 September 2004 in order to evaluate the successes of the International Conference on Population and Development's Programme of Action ten years after its adoption. In this framework, the Western Hemisphere Region conducted two meetings, one in New York, New York on 20 October 2004 and another in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 30 November 2004 in order to discuss the links between sexual and reproductive health and rights, and the Millennium Development Goals. The IPPF/WHR published a report on these two symposia titled: *Sex and the Hemisphere: The Millennium Development Goals and Sexual and Reproductive Health in Latin America and the Caribbean.*

2. For the 40th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women, IPPF/WHR brought a significant delegation to attend the Beijing +10 Review Process held in United Nations Headquarters from 28 February to 11 March 2005, bringing together people from our Member Associations in Brazil, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Mexico, New Zealand, Trinidad and Tobago, Antigua and Barbuda, Panama, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Japan, and Canada. Our representatives participated actively in lobbying governments to reaffirm their commitment to implement the Beijing Platform for Action.

3. IPPF/WHR actively participated in the 2006 United Nations General Assembly's Special Session on HIV/AIDS from 31 May to 2 June 2006, where IPPF/WHR brought together a delegation from the Latin America and Caribbean region to advocate for States' renewed commitment towards ensuring that they set ambitious national targets and act urgently in order to curb the pandemic, as well as adopting language on comprehensive sexuality education and access to evidence-based prevention strategies. IPPF also held a reception at the United Nations during the conference titled "Towards a World without HIV/AIDS".

(ii) Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

IPPF/WHR has had a very close partnering alliance with The United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) for many years now, therefore regularly sponsor meetings and workshops jointly and receive regular funding from the agency in order to provide for technical assistance and capacity building for our Member Associations throughout the region. IPPF/WHR has conducted training activities were offered to all Latin American and Caribbean UNFPA field offices and has also developed Self-Assessment models in collaboration with UNFPA for field offices in Bolivia and Panama.

(iii) Initiatives undertaken by the organization in support of internationally agreed development goals, in particular, the Millennium Development Goals, which now form the basis of the global agenda for the 21st century

1. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs): In 2004, IPPF/WHR had a major presence in the Cairo +10 meetings, convened by the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America in Santiago de Chile on March 10-11, 2004 and in San Juan, Puerto Rico on 29 June-2 July 2004. Many volunteers and staff participated in government delegations and in the Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) caucus. The Regional Director was one of just three representatives of NGOs who were invited to address the governmental meeting. As part of the Countdown 2015 effort, IPPF/WHR also organized two symposia on the Millennium Development Goals. The first, held in New York on 20 October 2004 was directed primarily at policy-makers and international agencies, and the second in Rio de Janeiro on 30 November 2004 for developing countries and NGOs.

In 2005, IPPF/WHR worked with its member associations throughout Latin America and the Caribbean on a regional advocacy initiative to advance sexual and reproductive health and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in the region. The aim of the project was to educate and gain support from key policy-makers and parliamentarians in the region to promote the Programme of Action resulting from the International Conference on Population and Development held in Cairo in 1994, especially reproductive health and rights, as it relates to the attainment of the MDGs in the region. This advocacy initiative was especially important and timely as it was carried out in preparation for the United Nations Millennium Summit held in New York on 14-16 September 2005. For this purpose, IPPF/WHR organized a sub-regional meeting in Brasilia, Brazil on 4 August 2005 entitled The Millennium Development Goals, Proposals for the Summit, and co-organized with UNFPA, the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS).

Also in 2005 and 2006, IPPF/WHR, in conjunction with other sexual and reproductive health and rights organizations, such as the International Women's Health Coalition, Family Care International, and Population Action International, have been calling for an additional target to be included in MDG 5 to reflect the centrality of reproductive health in achieving many, if not all, of the MDGs, based on the ICPD core goal of achieving access to reproductive health by 2015.

2. Activities in Support of Global Principles: IPPF/WHR has led fundraising campaigns for its online advocacy network: Free Choice Saves Lives on International Women's day every year. IPPF/WHR also had a special Cartoon Exhibition titled "Drawing it Out" with UNAIDS and other organizations during World Aids Day in 2006 held at the United Nations.

4. Ligue internationale contre le racisme et l'antisémitisme

(Special; 2003)

I. Introduction

(i) At the organization's forty-fifth national congress in January 2007, when it was celebrating its eightieth anniversary, the President of the Ligue internationale contre le racisme et l'antisémitisme (LICRA) said that the League drew its strength from its convictions, the splendid work of its sections and commissions, the dedication of its activists and their commitment over the last 80 years, the credibility it has and the seriousness with which it is taken by those who deal with it. Since 1927, the League has been in the front line of the ceaseless struggle against all forms of racism, anti-Semitism and discrimination. This anti-racist organization, working through its six commissions, upholds its goals and pursues an ambitious, effective and universally recognized grass-roots policy. There is not a day on which its Legal Commission does not counsel and help victims with procedural work; a powerhouse of ideas, it also regularly drafts proposed amendments to new laws. Its History Commission gives impetus to a process of reflection on the great subjects of memory, history and human rights. Because of the priority it gives to secular public schooling, the Education Commission maintains a daily presence in educational institutions through its prevention efforts directed at young people and the training it provides to teachers. The Youth Commission, composed of activists between the ages of 16 and 30, rounds out the organization's pedagogical action, directing all its energy and savoir faire to raising the awareness of the young. The Sports Commission works to inculcate a sense of responsibility and to combat any problems of violence and racism through and in sports. Lastly, the Culture Commission organizes and runs discussion conferences, public encounters, theatre or film evenings, with the collaboration of prominent political and/or cultural personalities, in order to keep the general public informed about major historical and present-day topics.

(ii) Being a dynamic organization as befits the times, the League is quick to seize upon new issues. Two notable developments are highlighted here. First, the League was, in October 2006, assigned an unaccustomed mission by the Minister of the Interior: to act as mediator between the State and 200 undocumented refugees who were homeless and had illegally occupied a gymnasium in the city of Cachan. This sensitive affair, better known in the media as the case of the "expelled squatters of

Cachan", had national repercussions. The mediation was successful: after long and bitter negotiations, LICRA succeeded in having the gymnasium evacuated with dignity, having arranged for housing for the entire group and for re-examination of the files of all the undocumented aliens hoping to have their status regularized. Secondly, the League has greatly expanded its activities abroad: new sections have been established, in Italy, for example, or will be set up in the coming months. Also, in terms of administrative changes, the League has revamped its executive office and its federal council, the bodies that represent the organization's activists, following the re-election of its president at the forty-fifth congress.

II. Contribution of LICRA to the work of the United Nations

(i) The League takes part in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary organs and in United Nations meetings, bringing to them its thinking and its expertise on issues of racism and the defence of human rights.

- *Conference organized at United Nations Headquarters by the NGO Committee on Human Rights of the Conference of NGOs* on 17 March 2005 in New York, United States of America. The League was a joint sponsor of the conference, on the topic "Facing the challenge of racism and anti-Semitism: post-Durban developments", in commemoration of 21 March, the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

- *Conference of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)* on 25 March 2005 in Warsaw, Poland. The League spoke on the topic "Sports, an instrument for combating racism and discrimination", together with the Polish association Never Again.

- *Declaration of the European Parliament* of 14 March 2006 in Strasbourg, France. The League participated in the press conference, and submitted for adoption by the Parliament a declaration on the control of racism in football, the result of its work with the network Football against Racism in Europe (FARE). The declaration was signed by 423 parliamentarians; the League, as the French association delegated by the network, was able to mobilize over 50 French eurodeputies to sign this commitment.

- *Fourth session of the Human Rights Council* from 12 to 30 March 2007 in Geneva, Switzerland. The League submitted an individual statement, a *Declaration on Darfur*, after the High-level Mission on the situation of human rights in Darfur had submitted its report.

- *Conference by the organization Urgence Darfour* on 20 March 2007 in Paris, France. The League was one of the founding members of Urgence Darfour, a collective established in 2003 that today has the support of over 120 French associations. For the last three years, the League has been engaged in the difficult work of raising the awareness of politicians, the media and French public opinion on the crisis. The Conference of 20 March marked a turning point in this mobilization, both politically and in the media. With the candidates for the French presidency in attendance along with many intellectuals and a huge public audience, the event received broad national media coverage, and led to a real awakening of public opinion. The meeting also marked the political commitment of the candidates, who subscribed to an eight-point text drawn up by Urgence Darfour.

– *Fifth session of the Human Rights Council* from 11 to 18 June 2007 in Geneva, Switzerland. The League contributed especially to the report submitted by the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance. A report was published for internal LICRA use to inform its activists about the Human Rights Council's perception of how racism was evolving.

(ii) In respect of the Millennium Development Goals, the League focused on Goal 3: *Promote gender equality and empower women*, Target 4: *Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education* ... Each year, the League makes over 60,000 young people aware of the values of equality and citizenship through more than 1,000 different activities. For example, on 9 March 2005, on International Women's Day, the League coordinated and conducted, in partnership with the Centre international de séjour de Paris, a series of activities, exchanges and discussions on the topic of gender equality. In addition, the League has been working particularly on four of the internationally agreed development goals. First, the League is fighting hard against discrimination and its banalization, and condemns this violation of human dignity so terribly commonplace for the victims. In 2005, it launched a huge national consciousness-raising campaign in the French media (posters, press, radio and television), which made a big impression on the public. Some strong slogans were very instructive — for instance, "The bouncer said to Abdel, 'exclusive party'. Excluding Abdel", "Rachel was mugged coming home from school. Her fault: coming home from school and being Jewish", or "According to some recruiters, there is a mistake in Djamila's CV. Her name is Djamila"; one can now find these slogans in school textbooks. Secondly, the League has put more emphasis on the educational work it does, aimed at raising the consciousness of young people and training them in citizenship, so that they become aware of the dangers of racism and are taught in a school setting, a respect for human beings and a sense of justice and of solidarity. Its work has been validated by the Ministry of National Education's renewal of its agreement with the League, in recognition of the usefulness of its pedagogical mission in the schools. Thirdly, LICRA has taken up the problem of racism on the sports fields and in the sports arenas. In the last three years, it has signed partnership agreements with the Ministry of Sports (2005), the French Football Federation (2005) and the Union of Professional Football Clubs (2007). In this context, it works in the professional and amateur clubs by using tools like the campaign it launched in 2005, "Racism. Silence is acquiescence", or the film "Pseudo-supporter, stay home", which was shown on television and cinema screens in 2006. Since 2004, each October the League has been organizing and coordinating the European Week for Action against Racism in Football, an initiative of the Football against Racism in Europe network, which inspired over 250,000 anti-racist initiatives in Europe. Fourthly, the League is very involved in the subject of a vital democracy. During every election, it runs consciousness-raising campaigns to encourage young citizens in particular to register to vote and to go to the polls. In the regional elections of March 2004, LICRA launched its campaign "Why does voting in the regional elections matter?"; in the May 2005 referendum on the European Constitution, it distributed the poster "Europe is you"; and in the June 2007 elections, its contribution was to distribute 10,000 notices and 100,000 brochures hammering home the message "In 2007 I am going to vote".

5. Nord-Sud XXI

(Special; 1995)

I. Introduction

Nord-Sud XXI is a non-governmental organization legally accredited in Switzerland, with headquarters in Geneva. In 1989, it grew out of an encounter of activists and intellectuals coming from every continent, who wished to fight together, beyond political or ideological frontiers, against anything that creates inequality, injustice, poverty or violence, which threatens everyone's identity at the dawn of the twenty-first century.

Its aim is to bring the North and the South together, refusing to accept the growing split between them. It rejects racism and dogmatisms of all kinds (be they religious fundamentalisms or neo-liberal thinking with claims to "uniqueness"), and also condemns war, which in some quarters seems to be acceptable as an ordinary means of settling conflicts. The advancement of the South and of peace are the only ways to rebuild a more human and more balanced world.

The organization is also on the Special List of NGOs of the International Labour Organization (ILO), and has observer status with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, and it takes an active part in their activities.

II. Contributions of the organization to the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or to United Nations conferences

Nord-Sud XXI has participated in various United Nations activities, especially those of the Commission on Human Rights, the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and the Human Rights Council. It invites representatives of the South to Geneva to speak before United Nations bodies, the aim being to make all different voices heard at the Organization. Trainees from different backgrounds and outlooks have been taught about the United Nations machinery, and about the need for the United Nations in contemporary life. Many oral and written statements and a few publications have been our contribution to the various items on the human rights agenda of the United Nations, including the following:

1. **2003: Fifty-ninth session of the Commission on Human Rights and fifty-fifth session of the Subcommission**: Oral statement on the human rights situation in Pakistan; oral statement on population displacements in Côte d'Ivoire; statement on the situation of Lebanese prisoners in Israel; reports on the human rights situations in Mauritania and Equatorial Guinea.

2. **2004: Sixtieth session of the Commission on Human Rights and fifty-sixth session of the Subcommission**: Oral statement on the human rights situation in Equatorial Guinea; oral statement on agenda item 14; special issue of the *Cahiers Nord-Sud XXI* on the Zaparo nation, introduced at the fifty-sixth session of the Subcommission together with a written statement; oral statement on the situation of the Lebanese prisoners in Israel; report entitled *The Armed Conflict in Darfur, Background Information*.

3. **2005: Sixty-first session of the Commission on Human Rights and fifty-seventh session of the Subcommission**: Oral statements on human rights violations

in the Occupied Arab Territories, on the situation in Equatorial Guinea and on the usurping of Amerindian land in Amazonia.

Thematic reports submitted during the sessions on the following topics: The Arab and Palestinian prisoners and detainees in Israeli prisons; The human rights and humanitarian situation in Darfur; Violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Equatorial Guinea; Detention and torture in Equatorial Guinea; The Right to Work in Equatorial Guinea: A flouted right; Violation of civil and political freedoms in Equatorial Guinea; The independence of the judiciary, the Administration of Justice and Impunity in Equatorial Guinea; Violation of economic and social rights in Equatorial Guinea.

4. **2006: Second session of the Human Rights Council**, 18 September-12 October: Oral statements on the situation in Lebanon; on the situation in Iraq, and on the United Nations missions to the Occupied Territories.

Thematic reports on Equatorial Guinea on the following topics: The marginalization of women: An unchanging traditional practice; Torture and arbitrary detention: A traditional practice; The vice of violation; The rich and the destitute; Poverty, corruption and constant violations in the midst of oil wealth; Dependence on the independence of the judiciary; Education, a vanished right.

(i) Cooperation with United Nations agencies and specialized agencies

- On the ILO Special List of NGOs since 1996, Nord-Sud XXI has participated in the annual meetings of the International Labour Conference.
- A special report on the Amerindians of Amazonia was issued and sent to various international institutions and organizations, such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

(ii) Conferences, meetings, forums and cultural events related to the activities and principles of the United Nations and the specialized international organizations

Nord-Sud XXI participated in the twenty-eighth Round Table on Current Problems of International Humanitarian Law, in the discussions of the topic "Strengthening measures for the respect and implementation of international humanitarian law and other rules protecting human dignity in armed conflict", San Remo, Italy, 2 September 2004.

1. African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights:

Nord-Sud XXI has observer status in meetings of the Commission, and took part in the thirty-third session in Niamey, Niger, 15-29 May 2003; the thirty-fourth session, Banjul, Gambia, 6-20 November 2003; the thirty-fifth session, Banjul, 21 May-4 June 2004; the thirty-sixth session, Dakar, Senegal, 23 November-7 December 2004; the thirty-seventh session, Banjul, 27 April-11 May 2005; the thirty-eighth session, Banjul, 21 November-5 December 2005; the thirty-ninth session, Banjul, 11-24 May 2006; the fortieth session, Banjul, 15-29 November 2006; and the forty-first session, Accra, Ghana, 16-30 May 2007.

2. Darfur

The organization continues to help delegations from this region to present reports on the human rights situation in Darfur to the United Nations in Geneva. Nord-Sud XXI has given particular attention to this conflict. It organized a panel on 7 April 2004, at the United Nations Office at Geneva, on its report entitled *The Human Rights Dimension of the Armed Conflict in Darfur, western Sudan* and a panel on 11 April 2005 on its report entitled *The Human Rights and Humanitarian Crisis in Darfur, Challenges to the International Community*. It also participated in the third special session on Darfur of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights in Pretoria, South Africa, 18-19 September 2004.

3. Antiwar activities and activities to promote respect for human rights during armed conflicts

– Iraq

Nord-Sud XXI delegates took part in the following meetings on the subject of Iraq: London, 14-15 February 2003; Athens, 16 March 2003; Brussels, 1 May 2003; Paris, 18-20 March 2004; Cairo, 24 March 2004; Paris, 14 May 2004; Barcelona, 23-27 June 2004; San Remo, 2 September 2004; Paris, 18-19 December 2004; London, 19-22 March 2005; Geneva, 22 March 2005; Amsterdam, 24 April 2005; Rome, 1-2 October 2005; and Brussels, 20-21 October 2005.

It organized a panel relating to Iraq at the United Nations Office at Geneva on the topic "The injustice of the Special Tribunal in Iraq" on 6 November 2006; and issued a press release on the violation of human rights in Iraq on the same day.

– Lebanon

Nord-Sud XXI issued a report and organized a panel on the war in Lebanon at the United Nations Office at Geneva on 4 October 2006; and addressed a letter to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation in the Middle East on 6 December 2006.

III. Action by Nord-Sud XXI in connection with the Millennium Development Goals

The organization helped to further the Goals in Central America and in Amazonia among the indigenous peoples. A working group was set up and a special report on the Amerindians of Amazonia was done in collaboration with the Arutam association. Nord-Sud XXI made it possible for representatives to participate in the ninth, tenth, eleventh and twelfth sessions of the Working Group on the draft United Nations Declaration on the Right of Indigenous Peoples, in Geneva.

– Goal 5 related to health

A special report on better health for all discusses three projects: (1) a programme to develop traditional Shuar medicine, started in March 2005; (2) a programme for the preservation and promotion of the medicinal plants of Amazonia, October 2006; and (3) a water, sanitation and hygiene programme for the Huichol people, February 2005. This special report was drawn up, reviewed and addressed to several international institutions and organizations with a view to helping improve the difficult conditions under which these indigenous communities are living. Activities are currently being conducted in the field.

– Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability

1. Nord-Sud XXI, together with its partners, launched the campaign Zero Deforestation, in order to restore and preserve a territory in Equatorial Amazonia that is the ancestral heritage of the Shiwiar Indians. In June 2006, a tour in Europe by a Shiwiar representative was organized.

2. A Nord-Sud XXI special report, "The Zaparo nation: Chronicle of a disappearance", alerted people to the environment in Amazonia, July 2004.

IV. Publications sent to the United Nations and its agencies

Nord-Sud XXI has published dozens of reports on different topics related to the agendas of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies; journals, reports and press releases are also issued with each publication. Many of these publications have been cited in this report.